Grand Teton

National Park
Drawer 170
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 733-2880

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BOATING REGULATIONS

PERMITS All privately owned vessels must be registered each year with Grand Teton National Park. The permit (sticker) for non-motorized craft can be obtained at the Moose and Colter Bay Visitor Centers and Signal Mountain and Buffalo Ranger Stations for a fee of $5.00 The permit for motorized craft costs $10.00 and can be obtained at the Moose and Colter Bay Visitor Centers and the Signal Mountain Ranger Station. Place the sticker on the port (left) side of the vessel, approximately one foot forward of the stern (rear of the boat). State registration for motorized vessels is required prior to obtaining a Park sticker.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- **Lights -** Every vessel when underway from sunset to sunrise must carry and exhibit navigation lights.
- **Lifesaving Equipment** - All vessels must carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved life preserver, ring life buoy, buoyant vest, or buoyant cushion for each person on board. They must be accessible and in good working condition.
- **Fire Extinguisher** - All motorboats must have at least the minimum number of hand portable fire extinguishers as required by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- **Waste Receptacle** - All vessels must have a waste receptacle aboard. Receptacles must be emptied only into facilities provided at docks or other specified places. The draining, dumping, or discharging of wastes or refuse, including human wastes, into the waters from any vessel is prohibited.

SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT

- **Signaling Devices** - Motorboats should have an efficient whistle and/or other sound producing device on board for making an effective signal when necessary.
- **Oars** - All boats less than 16 feet should be equipped with oars or paddles as a second means of propulsion.
- **Bailing Bucket** - All vessels of open construction should carry a suitable bailing bucket, in addition to whatever bilge pumps or automatic bailing devices with which the vessel is equipped.

OPEN WATERS

- Motor-propelled vessels are allowed **only** on Jackson, Jenny, and Phelps Lakes. On Jenny Lake, the use of motors in excess of 7.5 horsepower on vessels is prohibited, except for authorized boating concessioners operating by authority of the Superintendent.
- Hand-propelled vessels are permitted on Jackson, Jenny, Phelps, Emma Matilda, Two Ocean, Taggart, Bradley, Bearpaw, Leigh, and String Lakes and on the Snake river except within 1,000 feet of the downstream face of the Jackson Lake Dam.
- Only hand-propelled rubber rafts, canoes, and kayaks are allowed on the Snake River within the Park.

All other waters within the Park are closed to boating, including Pacific Creek, Buffalo Fork, and Gros Ventre Rivers.

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PROHIBITED OPERATIONS

- Operating in a reckless or negligent manner.
- Operating in a manner which endangers or is likely to endanger any other person or property.
- Operating while under the influence of intoxicants or narcotic drugs.
- Operating while any person is riding on the gunwales, transom, or on the decking over the bow while the vessel is underway unless adequate guardrails are provided.
- Carrying passengers for hire, or in any other commercial operation within the Park, unless written authorization has been granted by the Superintendent.
- Operating within 500 feet of any designated swimming area, except within marked channels, where slow speed must be maintained.
- Operating a vessel exceeding 40 feet in length.
- Leaving any vessel unattended, outside of designated mooring or beaching areas, for more than 24 hours without prior written permission from the Superintendent. Any vessel so left may be impounded.

INSPECTIONS Any Park Ranger may, at any time, stop or board any vessel to examine documents, licenses and/or permits relating to operations of the vessel and to inspect such vessel to determine compliance with regulations.

SAILBOATS AND WINDSURFERS Sailboats and windsurfers may be used only on Jackson Lake.

SWIMMING Swimming from vessels underway is prohibited.

ACCIDENTS A report of collision, accident, fire, or other casualty that results in property loss, property damage, any personal injury, or death must be made to a Park Ranger immediately by each operator of the vessels involved. This report does not relieve the responsibility of making boating accident reports as may be required by the State and/or the U.S. Coast Guard. Any operator involved in an accident shall also give in writing his name, address, and identification of his vessel to any person injured and/or to the owner of any property damaged.

BOAT LAUNCHING Vessels transported by vehicles must be launched or removed from Park waters at designated launching areas: Leek's Marina, Colter Bay boat ramp, Signal Mountain boat ramp, and Spalding Bay boat ramp.

BOAT TRAILERS Trailers or boats on trailers may be parked within the Park at Leek's Marina, the boat trailer parking area across from the Colter Bay cabin office, the boat trailer parking area above the Signal Mountain launch ramp, and the parking area at the base of the Signal Mountain Summit Road. Boat trailers may be parked in the designated area south of the Colter Bay Chuckwagon Restaurant, for a limit of three days.

PETS Pets are permitted within boats only on Jackson Lake. Pets are not permitted on shore away from designated launching areas or on the Snake River.

CAMPING Lakeshore camping is permitted at designated numbered sites along Jackson and Leigh Lakes. Permits must be obtained at the Moose or Colter Bay Visitor Centers or the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. Camping at numbered lakeshore sites on Jackson Lake is limited to 3 consecutive nights.

PICNIC FIRES Picnic fires are permitted only on Jackson Lake below high water line. Permits must be obtained from the Colter Bay Ranger Office in the Visitor Center or the Park Headquarters Permit Office at Moose.

WATER SKIING Water skiing is permitted only on Jackson Lake and is subject to the following regulations:

- Towing of skiers is permitted only from sunrise to sunset.
- There must be at least 2 persons in the vessel with one, other than the operator, in a position to observe the progress of the person(s) being towed.
- Skiers must wear lifesaving devices. Skiers wearing a device which is not approved by the U.S. Coast Guard must have such an approved lifesaving device readily available in the towing vessel.
- Water skiing is not permitted in channels or within 500 feet of harbors, swimming beaches, or mooring areas, or within 100 feet of any person swimming or diving.

A COMPLETE COPY OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BOATING REGULATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT ANY RANGER STATION.

Rev. 3/89

★ U.S. GPO: 1989 675-191